

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the final Office Action of July 21, 2005.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application and all presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Response, claims 45, 47, 50-52, and 54 are pending in this application. Claims 1-44, 46, 48-49, and 53 have been canceled. Claims 45 have been directly amended herein. The prior art made of record has been considered but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added and that a new search is not required to examine the amended claims and the newly added claims.

CLAIMS

Claim 45

Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly being obvious by Vo-Dinh (U.S. Patent 6,174,677) in view of Sandhu (U.S. Publication 20040192003). Claim 45, as amended, reads as follows:

45. A method of metallizing a nanostructure, comprising the steps of: forming a nanosphere; *exposing the nanosphere to Cu (II) acetylacetonate*; metallizing the nanosphere with copper; and forming a metallized nanosphere that has been metallized with the copper.

(Emphasis added). Applicants traverse the rejection and the Examiner's interpretation of the prior art and submit that the rejection of claim 45 under 35 U.S.C. §103 should be withdrawn because Vo-Dinh and Sandhu, individually or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest the highlighted portion in amended claim 45 above. In particular, Sandhu is directed to

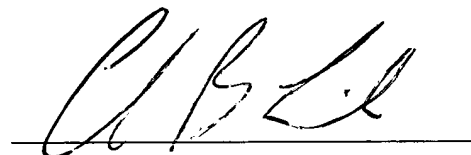
electronics and forms a layer of metal using electrodeposition, which is in contrast to amended claim 45. Thus, the rejection to amended claim 45 should be withdrawn and claim 45 allowed.

Further, Applicants traverse the rejection of pending dependent claim 47. Applicants respectfully submit that pending dependent claim 47 includes every feature of independent claim 45. Thus, pending dependent claim 47 is allowable over the prior art of record. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been accommodated and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.B.L.', is written over a horizontal line.

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